

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A sheet transporting apparatus, comprising:

- a sheet transportation path;
- a predetermined number of transport members disposed in the sheet transportation path;
- a side position regulating mechanism which regulates a position of a side edge of a sheet in the sheet transportation path, the side position regulating mechanism having a reference member configured to change a sheet regulation position;
- a base member on which at least the reference member is mounted;
- a first adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the reference member; and
- a second adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the base member;

wherein the side position regulating mechanism includes a side guide disposed on a side of the sheet transportation path and correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet and at least one skew member which skew-transport the sheet toward the side guide, and at least two position sensors which are disposed correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet, and a shift transportation roll which nip-transport the sheet and which is movable perpendicularly to a transportation direction of the sheet.

Claims 2-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein the first adjusting mechanism or the second adjusting mechanism can adjust the  
sheet regulation position of the side position regulating mechanism, in one or both of manual and  
automatic manners.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein one of the first adjusting mechanism and the second adjusting mechanism can  
perform the adjustment by a ~~fine~~ course adjustment step and the other adjusting mechanism a  
~~course~~ fine adjustment step, ~~respectively~~.

Claim 6 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 5,  
wherein, among the first adjusting mechanism and the second adjusting mechanism, an  
operation for the fine adjustment step is linked with an operation for the coarse adjustment step.

Claim 7 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 5,  
wherein the sheet position regulation by the side position regulating mechanism is  
performed while combinedly using the first adjusting mechanism and the second adjusting  
mechanism.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first adjusting mechanism supports the reference member swingably around a first swing fulcrum with respect to the base member.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim [4] 8, wherein the second adjusting mechanism supports the base member swingably around a second swing fulcrum.

Claim 10 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first adjusting mechanism includes a drive source and a driving transmitting mechanism; and

the drive source is coupled to the reference member via the driving transmitting mechanism.

Claim 11 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second adjusting mechanism includes a drive source and a driving transmitting mechanism; and

the drive source is coupled to the base member via the driving transmitting mechanism.

Claim 12 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: a controlling device which controls the first adjusting mechanism and the second adjusting mechanism.

Claim 13 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 11, wherein, in accordance with usage conditions of the sheet, the controlling device adjusts at least one of the first adjusting mechanism and the second adjusting mechanism.

Claim 14 (Original): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a direction of a sheet transportation face is used as a sheet usage condition.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): A sheet transporting apparatus which transports a sheet to a processing section via a sheet transportation path, comprising:

a sheet aligning mechanism which aligns a transportation posture of the sheet transported toward the processing section;

wherein the sheet aligning mechanism includes an adjusting mechanism which automatically adjusts the transportation posture of the sheet in accordance with a deformation degree of the sheet.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein, when the sheet processing section is to apply a reprocess on a rear face of a sheet in which a front face has been processed, the adjusting mechanism automatically adjusts the transportation posture of the sheet in accordance with the deformation degree of the sheet.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising: a controlling device which controls the adjusting mechanism;

wherein the sheet deformation degree is previously supplied to the controlling device.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising: a controlling device which controls the adjusting mechanism and which includes a measuring section that measures the sheet deformation degree.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A sheet processing apparatus, comprising:  
a sheet transportation path;  
a sheet processing section disposed in the sheet transportation path;  
a predetermined number of transport members disposed in the sheet transportation path;  
a side position regulating mechanism which regulates a position of a side edge of a sheet in the sheet transportation path, the side position regulating mechanism having a reference member configured to change a sheet regulation position;

a base member on which at least the reference member is mounted;  
a first adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the reference member; and  
a second adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the base member;  
wherein the side position regulating mechanism includes a side guide disposed on a side of the sheet transportation path and correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet and at least one skew member which skew-transport the sheet toward the side guide, and at least two position sensors which are disposed correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet, and a shift transportation roll which nip-transport the sheet and which is movable perpendicularly to a transportation direction of the sheet.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): A sheet processing apparatus, comprising:

a sheet transportation path;  
a sheet processing section disposed in a sheet transportation path; and  
a sheet aligning mechanism which aligns a transportation posture of the sheet transported toward the processing section;

wherein the sheet aligning mechanism includes an adjusting mechanism which automatically adjusts the transportation posture of the sheet in accordance with a deformation degree of the sheet.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the driving transmitting mechanism includes a plurality of bevel gears connected to a drive transmission shaft oriented perpendicular to the a shaft of the drive source, an eccentric cam is positioned on the drive transmission shaft and butts a cam follower to convert rotational movement of the eccentric cam and cam follower into a swingable movement of the reference member around a first swing fulcrum with respect to the base member.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The sheet transporting apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the driving transmitting mechanism includes a plurality of gears connected to a drive transmission shaft oriented parallel to the a shaft of the drive source, an eccentric cam positioned on the drive transmission shaft abuts a cam follower positioned on an engagement pin and converts rotational movement of the eccentric cam and cam follower into a swingable movement of the base member around a second swing fulcrum.

Claim 23 (New): A sheet transporting apparatus, comprising:

- a sheet transportation path;
- a predetermined number of transport members disposed in the sheet transportation path;
- a side position regulating mechanism which regulates a position of a side edge of a sheet in the sheet transportation path, the side position regulating mechanism having a reference member configured to change a sheet regulation position;

a base member on which at least the reference member is mounted;  
a first adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the reference member; and  
a second adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the base member;  
wherein the side position regulating mechanism includes a side guide system having a side guide disposed on a side of the sheet transportation path and correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet and at least one skew member which skew-transport the sheet toward the side guide, and a sensor guide system having a sensor support member with at least two position sensors which are disposed correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet, and a shift transportation roll which nip-transport the sheet and which is movable perpendicularly to a transportation direction of the sheet.

Claim 24 (New): A sheet processing apparatus, comprising:

a sheet transportation path;  
a sheet processing section disposed in the sheet transportation path;  
a predetermined number of transport members disposed in the sheet transportation path;  
a side position regulating mechanism which regulates a position of a side edge of a sheet in the sheet transportation path, the side position regulating mechanism having a reference member configured to change a sheet regulation position;  
a base member on which at least the reference member is mounted;  
a first adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the reference member; and  
a second adjusting mechanism which adjusts a position of the base member;



wherein the side position regulating mechanism includes a side guide system having a side guide disposed on a side of the sheet transportation path and correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet and at least one skew member which skew-transport the sheet toward the side guide, and a sensor guide system having a sensor support member with at least two position sensors which are disposed correspondingly with the side edge position of the sheet, and a shift transportation roll which nip-transport the sheet and which is movable perpendicularly to a transportation direction of the sheet.